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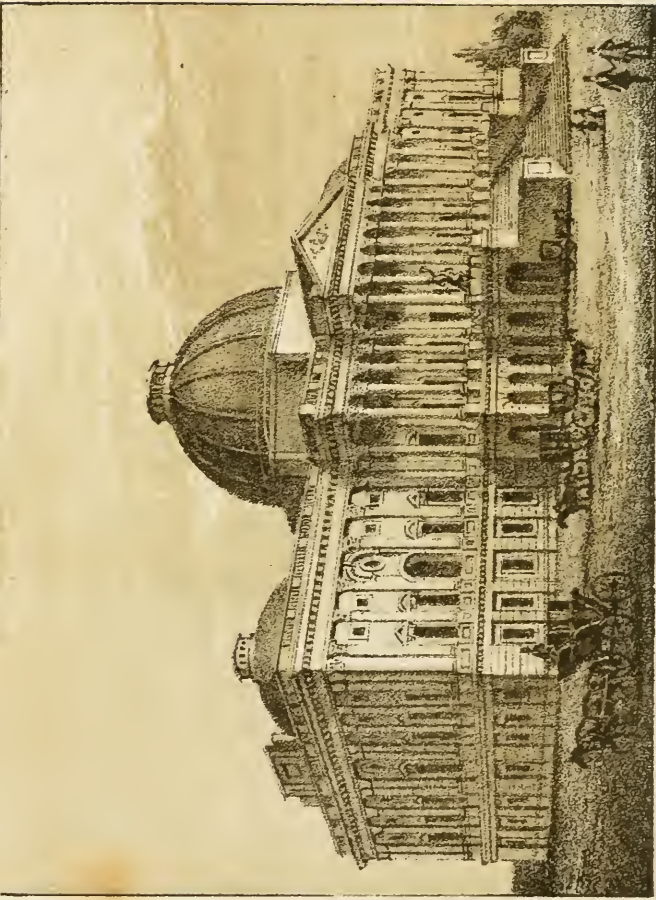
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East Front of the Capitol

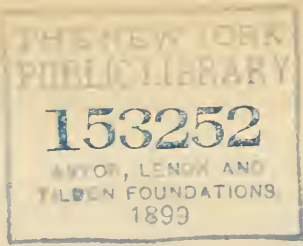
BOHN'S
HAND-BOOK
OF
WASHINGTON.

ILLUSTRATED WITH
TWENTY ENGRAVINGS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &C.

WASHINGTON:
PUBLISHED BY CASSIMIR BORN,
AND TAYLOR & MAURY.
1852

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Hand-Book of Washington.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.



THE object of this little volume is simply to supply Strangers, who may visit the National Metropolis on business or pleasure, with all the information of a local character, calculated to be of service to them. But before proceeding with details, it will be proper to give the leading facts connected with the establishment of the present Seat of the General Government. The idea of locating it on the Potomac was originally suggested by General George Washington, and the Act of Congress, which created the territory of the District of Columbia, was passed on the 16th of July, 1790;—in the Senate by a vote of 14 to 12, and in the House of Representatives of 32 to 29. The law provided, however, that the Government should not be removed from Philadelphia to

Washington until the year 1800, and that the intervening time should be employed, under the direction of Commissioners appointed for the purpose, in preparing suitable buildings at the latter point for the accommodation of Congress, and of the President, and for the Public Offices. The quantity of land set aside for National purposes was one hundred square miles, forming a square of ten miles, and spanning the Potomac River at the head of ship navigation: and the States which ceded to the Nation the necessary portions of their domain were Maryland and Virginia. The corner-stone of the District of Columbia was laid at Jones' Point, near Alexandria, on the 15th April, 1791, by Daniel Carroll and David Stuart, with all the Masonic ceremonies usual at that time; and the corner-stone of the Capitol was laid, with similar honors, by Gen. Washington, on the 18th September, 1793. The design of the city was executed by Major L'Enfant, under the direction of Washington himself; and the streets were chiefly laid out by A. Ellicott, and two gentlemen by the name of King. The limits of the city extend from north-west to south-east, about four miles and a half, and from east to south-west about

two miles and a half. The streets, which vary from seventy to one hundred and ten feet in width, run from north to south, and from east to west, crossing each other at right angles, with the exception of fifteen noble avenues, which point to that number of States, which were the first to enter the Union. The soil of Washington City and surrounding country is generally of a light clay or sand, and is cultivated at considerable expense; and while bilious and intermittent fevers prevail in certain localities in the fall of the year, as a general thing the place is as free from epidemical diseases as any other in the country. Laid out as the city was, on an extensive scale, there is always a free circulation of wholesome air, and the best of water is to be found in all directions. The climate, for many years past, has been becoming gradually more moderate and salubrious than it was in the olden times, and upon the whole may be pronounced as agreeable and healthy as that of any other section of the United States. The circumference of the city according to Mr. Wallerston is 14 miles, the aggregate length of streets 199 miles, and of the avenues 65 miles. The avenues, streets, and open spaces, contain 3,604

acres; and the public reservations, 10, 11 and 12, since disposed of for private purposes, 513 acres. The whole area of the squares of the city amounts to 131,684,176 square feet, or 3,016 acres; one-half of which, 1,508 acres, was reserved for the use of the United States, and the remaining half assigned to the original proprietors; 1,536 acres belonged to the United States.

A more beautiful site for a city could hardly be obtained. From a point where the Potomac, at a distance of 295 miles from the ocean, and flowing from north-west to south-east, expands to the width of a mile, extended back an almost level plain, hemmed in by a series of gradually sloping hills, terminating with the heights of Georgetown; the plain being nearly three miles in length, from east to west and varying from a quarter of a mile to two miles in breadth; bounded on the east by the Eastern Branch of the Potomac, where are now the navy-yard and congressional cemetery, and on the west by the Rock Creek, which separates it from Georgetown. The small stream from the north, over which the rail road bridge now passes, on entering the City, emptied into a bay or inlet of the Potomac

about 400 feet wide, which jutted in from the west, to within a quarter of a mile of the Capitol Hill, and nearly divided the plain. Not far from the head of this, and south of the Capitol Hill, a small stream took its rise in a large number of springs, and emptied into the river, at a place now called Greenleaf's Point, formed by the intersection of the Eastern Branch with the Potomac, and was known as James Creek. There is a stream above Georgetown which has always been called Goose Creek; but, from a certificate of a survey now preserved in the mayor's office, at Washington, dated 1663, it appears that the inlet from the Potomac was then known by the name of Tiber, and probably the stream from the north emptying into it bore the same name; so that Moore did injustice to the history of the place, and confounded streams, when he wrote the well-known line;

“And what was Goose Creek once, is Tiber now.”

By the same survey, it appears that the land, comprising the Capitol Hill, was called Rome or Room, two names which seemed to have foreshadowed the destiny of the place. Mr. Force, of Washington, suggests that they probably originated in the fact that the name of

the owner of the estate was *Pope*, and, in selecting a name for his plantation, he fancied the title of "Pope of Rome." *

The Commissioners reported that the public buildings would be ready for the reception of the government in the summer of 1800. Accordingly, the Executive were, in the month of June in that year, removed to Washington from Philadelphia, and Congress commenced its session there on the third Monday of November following. On this occasion in his opening speech, President Adams said:—"I congratulate the people of the United States on the assembling of Congress at the permanent seat of their government; and I congratulate you, gentlemen, on the prospect of a residence not to be exchanged. It would be unbecoming the representatives of this nation to assemble for the first time in this solemn temple without looking up to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, and imploring his blessing. It is with you, gentlemen, to consider whether the local powers over the District of Columbia, vested by the Constitution in the Congress of the United States, shall be immediately exercised. If, in your opinion, this important trust ought

* Joseph B. Varnum.


now to be executed, you cannot fail, while performing it, to take into view the future probable situation of the territory, for the happiness of which you are about to provide. You will consider it as the capital of a great nation, advancing with unexampled rapidity in arts, in commerce, in wealth, and in population, and possessing within itself those resources, which, if not thrown away, or lamentably misdirected, will secure to it a long course of prosperity and self-government."

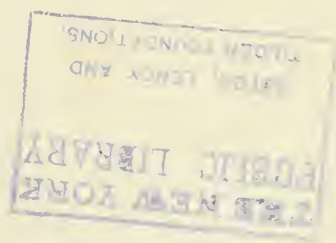
The Senate, in their reply, said:—"We meet you, sir, and the other branch of the national legislature, in the City which is honored by the name of our late hero and sage, the illustrious Washington, with sensations and emotions which exceed our power of description."

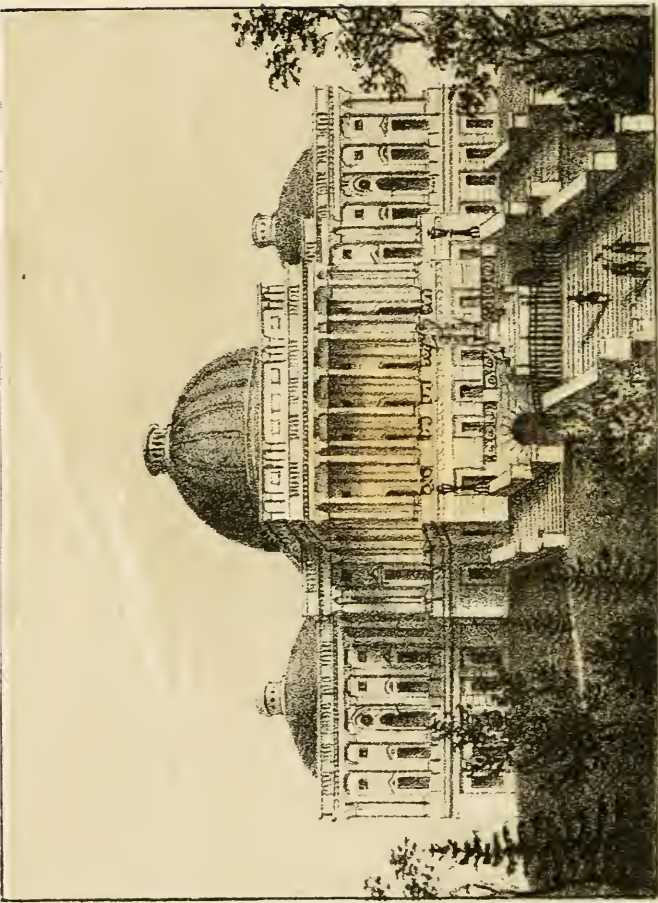
The House of Representatives in reply, said:—"The final establishment of the seat of national government, which has now taken place in the District of Columbia, is an event of no small importance in the political transactions of our country. Nor can we on this occasion omit to express a hope that the spirit which animated the great founder of this city, may descend to future generations; and that

the wisdom, magnanimity, and steadiness, which marked the events of his public life, may be imitated in all succeeding ages. A consideration of those powers which have been vested in Congress over the District of Columbia, will not escape our attention; nor shall we forget that, in exercising those powers, a regard must be had to those events which will necessarily attend the capital of America."

THE CAPITOL.

S before intimated, the building of this edifice was commenced in the year 1793, with Mr. Hallet as architect, who was succeeded in that capacity by Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Hoban and Mr. Latrobe. During the Embargo and the accompanying war the work was suspended, and as the British subsequently demolished much of what had been accomplished by the above named gentlemen, the government in 1815 found it necessary to reconstruct the Capitol, when it was finished as it now stands, chiefly





West Front of the Capitol

under the superintendence of Mr. C. Bulfinch. It is situated on an area enclosed by an iron railing and including thirty acres. The building stands on the western portion of this plat, and is so elevated as to command a view of the entire City of Washington, including the heights of Georgetown, the windings of the Potomac and the City of Alexandria.

The exterior exhibits a rusticated basement of the height of the first story, the two other stories are comprised in a Corinthian elevation of pilasters and columns; these columns which are thirty feet in height form an advancing portico, on the east, one hundred and sixty feet in extent, the centre of which is crowned with a pediment of eighty feet span; while a receding loggia one hundred feet in extent, distinguishes the centre of the west front. The building is surrounded by a balustrade of stone and covered with a lofty dome in the centre and a flat dome on each wing. The dimensions of the building are length of front 352 feet 4 inches, depth of wings 121 feet 6 inches, and height to the top of centre dome 145 feet. The cost up to 1828, when it may be said to have been completed was nearly \$1,800,000. During the last session

of Congress appropriations were made for the further enlargement of the Capitol by the addition of two new wings of 238 by 140 feet each wing, and when these are completed, the whole Capitol, including the space between the wings and the main building will cover an area of four and one-third acres. The corner-stone of the extension was laid by President Fillmore on the 4th of July, 1851, with Masonic ceremonies, on which occasion the Hon. Daniel Webster delivered a brilliant oration.

In further describing the Capitol we shall speak of its various leading features separately, and in the following order:—The Senate Chamber, the Hall of Representatives, the Rotundo, the Congressional Library, Chamber of the Supreme Court, together with the Capitol Grounds.

And first as to the Senate Chamber. This is in the second story of the north wing, of a semi-circular form, seventy-five feet long, and forty-five high; a screen of Ionic columns, with capitals, support a gallery to the east, forming a loggia below—and a gallery of iron pillars and railings of a light structure, projects from the circular walls, and the dome ceilings are enriched with square caissons of stucco. The

walls are partially covered with drapery, and columns of *breccia*, or Potomac marble support the eastern gallery. The chamber upon the whole is a handsome affair; but it is now felt to be too small for the comfort of so large a body as that which annually convenes there, and the access to it is notoriously inconvenient. The only painting which adorns the Senate Chamber is a portrait of Washington.

The Hall of Representatives is also of a semi-circular form, and of course much larger than the Senate Chamber. It is in the second story of the south wing, ninety-six feet long and sixty feet high. It is surrounded with twenty-four columns of the variegated Potomac marble, with capitols of white Italian marble of the Corinthian order, and surmounting a base of freestone, and the dome of the Hall is painted in imitation of that of the Pantheon of Rome. From the centre of the dome hangs a massive gilt chandelier, and high over the Speaker's chair, which is elevated and canopied, is placed the model of a colossal figure of *Liberty* supported by an eagle just ready to fly, the work of Italian artists named Causici and Valaperti, the last of whom is thought to have committed suicide soon after accom-

plishing this work. In front of the chair and immediately over the main entrance stands a statue in marble representing History recording the events of the nation. She is placed on a winged car, rolling around a globe, on which are delineated the signs of the Zodiac, and the wheel of the car is the face of the clock of the Hall; and this is also the work of foreign artist named Franzoni. Two full length portraits, one of Washington and one of La Fayette, adorn the walls on either side of the chair, and in every direction are displayed ample folds of crimson drapery. The galleries of this Hall are so extensive as nearly to encircle it, and the general arrangement of the room is such as to render the members and the audience as comfortable as possible.

And here it occurs to us, we ought to mention a few of the regulations which appertain to the Senate Chamber and the Hall of Representatives during the sessions of Congress. The gentleman whose duty it is to preside in the former is the Vice-President of the United States; but the Speaker of the House is elected to that position from its own body, and serves during all the sessions of one Congress. The only persons, besides members,

admitted to the floors of the two chambers, are the President and his Secretary, the Heads of the Departments and Bureaus, the Diplomatic Corps, all Governors of States, and all the ex-members of Congress, ex-Presidents and ex-Governors, &c. &c.; as a privilege however, the members can in person convey any friend to a seat in the lobby of the Senate or House. The regular business hours in the legislative halls during the sittings of Congress, are from 12 to 3 o'clock; but when there is a pressure of business, towards the close of a session, it is customary to sit both day and night,—for many hours continuously. Both houses of Congress are abundantly supplied with competent officers and clerks, under whose management all things usually go on like clock-work, and to any of whom every stranger may apply with perfect propriety for what information respecting the Capitol they may reasonably desire.

The next interesting feature of the Capitol that we would describe is the Rotundo. It occupies the centre, and is ninety-six feet in diameter, and the same number of feet high. The dome is hemispherical and filled with large plain caissons; the room in its circuit is divided into eight panels, intended for paint-

ings, seven of which are already filled ; and stationed between these panels are four bas relievos of historical subjects ; one representing the *Preservation of Capt. Smith by Pocahontas*, one the *Landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock*, one the *Conflict between Daniel Boone and the Indians*, and the other *Penn's Treaty with the Indians*. In addition to these specimens of sculpture are also displayed, encircled with floral wreaths, the heads of *Columbus*, *Raleigh*, *La Sale*, and *Cabot* ;—all these productions of the chisel being from the hands of *Causici* and *Capellano*.* Of the paintings four are by *Col. John Trumbull*, one by *Weir*, one by *Vanderlyn*, and one by *Chapman* ;—the order for the remaining vacancy not having yet been filled. The subjects of Trumbull's pictures are first, the "*Declaration of Independence*," the essential object of which was to preserve the portraits of the men who were the authors of that Declaration. As Col. Trumbull was one of the *aids* of General Washington in the Revolutionary War, he had the best of opportunities for obtaining the portraits from the living men,

* In niches on the outside of the east door are also two statues of colossal size representing *Peace* and *War*, from the chisel of *Persico*.

and the consequence is that we have authentic likenesses in this picture of the following personages :

- 1.—George Wythe, Virginia.
- 2.—William Whipple, New Hampshire.
- 3.—Josiah Bartlett, New Hampshire.
- 4.—Benjamin Harrison, Virginia.
- 5.—Thomas Lynch, South Carolina.
- 6.—Richard Henry Lee, Virginia.
- 7.—Samuel Adams, Massachusetts.
- 8.—George Clinton, New York.
- 9.—William Paca, Maryland.
- 10.—Samuel Chase, Maryland.
- 11.—Lewis Morris, New York.
- 12.—William Floyd, New York.
- 13.—Arthur Middleton, South Carolina.
- 14.—Thomas Hayward, South Carolina.
- 15.—Charles Carroll, Maryland.
- 16.—George Walton, Georgia.
- 17.—Robert Morris, Pennsylvania.
- 18.—Thomas Willing, Pennsylvania.
- 19.—Benjamin Rush, Pennsylvania.
- 20.—Elbridge Gerry, Massachusetts.
- 21.—Robert Treat Payne, Massachusetts.
- 22.—Abraham Clark, New Jersey.
- 23.—Stephen Hopkins, Rhode Island.
- 24.—William Ellery, Rhode Island.
- 25.—George Clymer, Pennsylvania.
- 26.—William Hooper, North Carolina.
- 27.—Joseph Hewes, North Carolina.
- 28.—James Wilson, Pennsylvania.

- 29.—Francis Hopkinson, New Jersey.
- 30.—John Adams, Massachusetts.
- 31.—Roger Sherman, Connecticut.
- 32.—Robert R. Livingston, New York.
- 33.—Thomas Jefferson, Virginia.
- 34.—Benjamin Franklin, Pennsylvania.
- 35.—Richard Stockton, New Jersey.
- 36.—Francis Lewis, New York.
- 37.—John Witherspoon, New Jersey.
- 38.—Samuel Huntington, Connecticut.
- 39.—William Williams, Connecticut.
- 40.—Oliver Wolcott, Connecticut.
- 41.—John Hancock, Massachusetts.
- 42.—Charles Thompson, Pennsylvania.
- 43.—George Reed, Delaware.
- 44.—John Dickinson, Delaware.
- 45.—Edward Rutledge, South Carolina.
- 46.—Thomas McKean, Pennsylvania.
- 47.—Philip Livingston, New York.

The second of Trumbull's pictures represents the "*Surrender of General Burgoyne.*" To the intelligent spectator it will tell its own story, and we shall therefore content ourselves with simply giving the names of those distinguished officers whose portraits appear upon this canvas, which are as follows :

- 1.—Major Lithgow, Massachusetts.
- 2.—Colonel Cilly, New Hampshire.
- 3.—General Starke, New Hampshire.
- 4.—Captain Seymour, Conn., of Sheldon's horse.

- 5.—Major Hull, Massachusetts.
- 6.—Colonel Groaton, Massachusetts.
- 7.—Major Dearborn, New Hampshire.
- 8.—Colonel Scammell, New Hampshire.
- 9.—Colonel Lewis, Q. M. G., New York.
- 10.—Major-General Philips, British.
- 11.—Lieutenant-General Burgoyne, British.
- 12.—General Baron Reidesel, German.
- 13.—Col. Wilkinson, Deputy Adj't Gen'l, American.
- 14.—General Gates.
- 15.—Colonel Prescott, Massachusetts' Volunteer.
- 16.—Colonel Morgan, Virginia Riflemen.
- 17.—Brigadier-General Rufus Putnam, Massachusetts.
- 18.—Lt. Col. John Brooks, late Governor of Mass.
- 19.—Rev. Mr. Hitchcock, Chaplain, Rhode Island.
- 20.—Major Robert Troup, Aid-de-Camp, New York.
- 21.—Major Haskell, Massachusetts.
- 22.—Major Armstrong, Aid-de-Camp, now General.
- 23.—Major-General Philip Schuyler, Albany.
- 24.—Brigadier-General Glover, Massachusetts.
- 25.—Brigadier-Gen. Whipple, N. Hampshire Militia.
- 26.—Major Matthew Clarkson, Aid-de-Camp, N. Y.
- 27.—Major Ebenezer Stevens, Massachusetts, Commanding the Artillery.

The third of the Revolutionary paintings represents the "*Surrender of the British Army, commanded by Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, in Virginia.*" This picture contains the portraits of the principal officers of America,

France and England, and their names are as follows :

- 1.—Count Deuxponts, Colonel of French Infantry.
- 2.—Duke de Laval Montmorency, Colonel of French Infantry.
- 3.—Count Custine, Colonel of French Infantry.
- 4.—Duke de Lauzun, Colonel of Cavalry, French.
- 5.—General Choizy.
- 6.—Viscount Viomenil.
- 7.—Marquis de St. Simon.
- 8.—Count Fersen, Aid-de-Camp of Count Rochambeau.
- 9.—Count Charles Damas, Aid-de-Camp of Count Rochambeau.
- 10.—Marquis Chastellux.
- 11.—Baron Viomenil.
- 12.—Count de Barras, Admiral.
- 13.—Count de Grasse, Admiral.
- 14.—Count Rochambeau, Gen. en Chef des Francais.
- 15.—General Lincoln.
- 16.—Col. Ebenezer Stevens, of the American Artillery.
- 17.—General Washington, Commander-in-Chief.
- 18.—Thomas Nelson, Governor of Virginia.
- 19.—Marquis La Fayette.
- 20.—Baron Steuben.
- 21.—Colonel Cobb, Aid-de-Camp to Gen. Washington.
- 22.—Colonel Trumbull, Secretary to Gen. Washington.
- 23.—Major-General James Clinton, New York.
- 24.—General Gist, Maryland.
- 25.—General Anthony Wayne, Pennsylvania.
- 26.—General Hand, Adjutant General, Pennsylvania.

- 27.—General Peter Muhlenberg, Pennsylvania.
- 28.—Major-Gen. Henry Knox, Commander Artillery.
- 29.—Lieut. Col. E. Huntington, Acting Aid-de-Camp of General Lincoln.
- 30.—Col. Timothy Pickering, Quarter Master General.
- 31.—Col. Alexander Hamilton, Com'dg Light Infantry.
- 32.—Col. John Laurens, of South Carolina.
- 33.—Col. Walter Stuart, of Philadelphia.
- 34.—Col. Nicholas Fish, of New York.

The fourth and last of Trumbull's paintings represents the "*Resignation of General Washington at Annapolis*;" and the following named portraits are here collected :

- 1.—Thos. Mifflin, Pa., President, Mem. of Congress.
- 2.—Charles Thompson, Pennsylvania, do.
- 3.—Elbridge Gerry, Massachusetts, do.
- 4.—Hugh Williamson, N. Carolina, do.
- 5.—Samuel Osgood, Massachusetts, do.
- 6.—Ed. McComb, Delaware, do.
- 7.—George Partridge, Massachusetts, do.
- 8.—Edward Lloyd, Maryland, do.
- 9.—R. D. Spaight, North Carolina, do.
- 10.—Benjamin Hawkins, N. Carolina, do.
- 11.—A. Foster, New Hampshire, do.
- 12.—Thomas Jefferson, Virginia, do.
- 13.—Arthur Lee, Virginia, do.
- 14.—David Howell, Rhode Island, do.
- 15.—James Munroe, Virginia, do.
- 16.—Jacob Reid, South Carolina, do.
- 17.—James Madison, Virginia—(Spectator.)

- 18.—William Ellery, R. Island, Member of Congress.
- 19.—Jeremiah Townley Chase, Maryland, do.
- 20.—S. Hardy, Virginia, do.
- 21.—Charles Morris, Pennsylvania, do.
- 22.—General Washington, do.
- 23.—Colonel Benjamin Walker, Aid-de-Camp.
- 24.—Colonel David Humphreys, do.
- 25.—General Smallwood, Maryland, Spectator.
- 26.—Gen. Otho H. Williams, Maryland, do.
- 27.—Colonel Samuel Smith, Maryland, do.
- 28.—Col. John E. Howard, Baltimore, Md., do.
- 29.—Charles Carroll and two daughters, Md., do.
- 30.—Mrs. Washington and 3 grand children, do.
- 31.—Daniel, of St. Thomas Jenifer, Maryland, do.

The subjects of the remaining pictures in the Rotundo are the "*Embarkation of the Pilgrims from Leyden*," by Weir, the "*Landing of Columbus*," by Vanderlyn, and the "*Baptism of Pocahontas*," by Chapman. As these illustrate scenes connected with the very earliest history of our country, none but the leading figures are to be considered in the aspect of authentic portraits, and we therefore deem it unnecessary to particularize the various personages delineated. And as our object in this book is simply to give facts, it cannot be expected that we should play the part of a critic, and we shall therefore leave the spectator the rare privilege of forming his own opin-

ion, not only of the pictures, but of every thing else that we may describe.

We now come to speak of the Congressional Library which is unquestionably one of the chief attractions of the Capitol. The principal Room, of which there are three, faces the west, and is a large and handsome affair, ninety-two feet long, thirty-four wide and thirty-six high : divided into twelve alcoves, ornamented with fluted pilasters ; and in every direction are displayed portraits and busts, cases of medals and other interesting works of art. The number of volumes which it contains is about 50,000, and the Catalogue, which is arranged on the system of Lord Bacon, comprises the following table of chapters : Ancient History, Modern History, of all the countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, American Newspapers, Ecclesiastical History, Natural Philosophy, Agriculture, Chemistry, Surgery, Medicine, Anatomy, Zoology, Botany, Mineralogy and Conchology, Occupations of Man, Technical Arts, Ethics, Religion, Common Law, Reports in every department of Learning and Legislation, Politics, Mathematics, Astronomy, Geography, Fine Arts, and all the Standards in Polite Literature, with many valuable

Original Manuscripts. The original Library, which was collected under the direction of Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Mitchell, in 1800, was destroyed by fire during the last war, and that which now enriches the Capitol, was founded upon one which was purchased by Congress, in 1814, of Thomas Jefferson, for \$23,000.* The affairs of the Library are indirectly in charge of a Library Committee, consisting of members from the two houses of Congress, but the immediate superintendents are a Librarian and two assistants, viz: John S. Meehan, E. B. Stelle, and C. H. W. Meehan. The public in general are privileged to visit the Library and examine books on the spot, but members of Congress and the officers of the Executive Departments are all who enjoy the privilege of taking away any books that they may desire. The Library is open every day during the sessions of Congress, and during the recess on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays of each week, from nine o'clock until three.

* The yearly average increase is about 1,800 volumes. The sum of \$5,000 is annually appropriated by Congress for Miscellaneous Books, and \$1,000 for Law Books.

The apartment for the accommodation of the Supreme Court is an ill-arranged, inconvenient and badly lighted room, in the basement under the Senate Chamber. It is semi-circular in shape, with manifold arches; and on the wall is an emblem of Justice, holding her scales, in bold relief, and also a figure of Fame crowned with the rising sun, and pointing to the Constitution of the United States. The members of the bar are accommodated with seats and desks in the body of the room; and the Justices occupy a row of elevated seats, and appear in their official capacity clothed in black silk gowns or robes. The Bench of the Supreme Court, as it now stands, is composed of the following gentlemen:—Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice, John McLean, James M. Wayne, John Catron, John McKinley, Peter V. Daniel, Samuel Nelson, Benjamin R. Custis, Robert C. Grier: the Clerk of the Court and Deputy being William T. Carroll and D. M. Middleton, and the Reporter, B. C. Howard.

In addition to the apartments of the Capitol already specified, it should be mentioned that there are also a large number of ordinary, but well furnished rooms, which are occupied by the Vice-President, the Speaker of the House,

and other Officers, by the Postmasters of Congress, the Public Documents, and the Committees of the two houses.

In regard to the Capitol Grounds we have only to say, that they are not only extensive, but are kept in the very neatest order, constituting one of the very pleasantest and most popular resorts for promenading to be found in the Metropolis. They command most charming prospects of the surrounding country, are adorned with a great variety of American trees, fountains and basins of pure water enliven them in various parts, and an air of superior refinement is given to them, by a number of pieces of statuary, the most attractive specimens being a Statue of Washington, by Greenough, and a pair of Columbus and an Indian Woman, by Persico, the former occupying the centre of a square east of the Capitol, and the two others appropriate places on the eastern portico.

Near the Western entrance to the Capitol stands a Monument erected by the Officers of the Navy to the memory of their brother Officers, who fell in the War with Tripoli. It is of marble, rises out of a pool or basin of water, and is forty feet high. On one side of



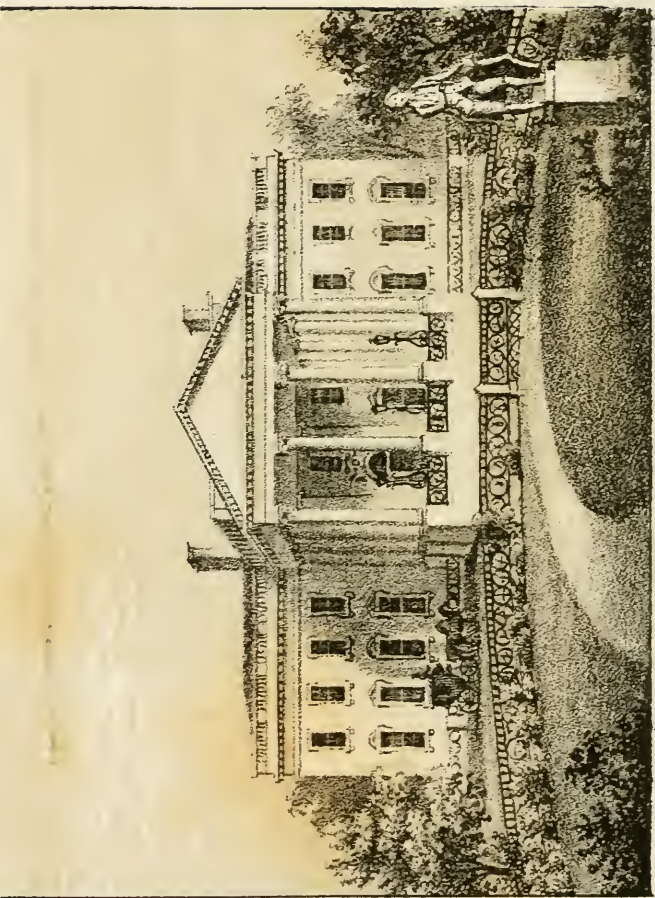
Greenough's Statue of Washington

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Presidents House

the base is a view of Tripoli and the American Fleet; on another the words, "To the Memory of Sommers, Caldwell, Decatur, Wordsworth, Dorsey, Israel;" and on another side, a brief but comprehensive history. At the base of the column are four marble emblematic figures, Mercury, Fame, History, and America: the column has also appropriate embellishments, and is surmounted by an Eagle.

THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.



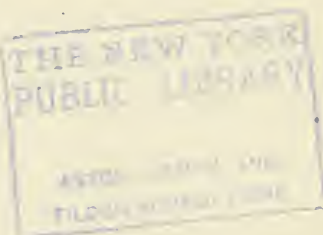
THE plan of this building was made by James Hoban, and the cornerstone was laid on the 13th of October, 1792; but having been partially destroyed during the last war, the same architect was employed to rebuild it in 1815. It is situated at the "west end" of the city, at the intersection of Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut and Vermont Avenues. It occupies the centre of a plat of ground containing twenty acres, and at an elevation of forty-four feet above the waters of the Potomac. For

several years past the grounds both in front and in the rear of the President's House have been in a neglected condition, but under the management of Mr. Downing and Mr. Breckenridge the grounds lying south of the Mansion are being transformed into a magnificent park, which when completed, will afford a fine carriage drive of three or four miles. The Potomac at one end, and the Capitol at the other; the Smithsonian Institute and the Washington Monument being situated in its midst. Besides this, Mr. Downing is planning the improvement of La Fayette and Franklin Squares into fine pleasure grounds. In the centre of La Fayette Square will be placed Mr. Mill's colossal equestrian statue of General Jackson.

The Mansion in question is 170 feet front and 86 deep, is built of white freestone with Ionic pilasters comprehending two lofty stories of rooms, crowned with a stone balustrade. The north front is ornamented with a lofty portico, of four Ionic columns in front, and projecting with three columns. The outer inter-columniation is for carriages to drive under, and place company under shelter: the middle space is for those visitors who come on foot; the steps from both leading to a broad platform in front



Jackson Monument



of the door of entrance. The garden front is varied by having a rusticated basement story under the Ionic ordonnance, and by a semi-circular projecting colonnade of six columns, with two flights of steps leading from the ground to the level of the principal story.

The interior arrangements of the Executive Mansion are of course elegant and convenient, well adapted to the various purposes for which the building was designed; and as the rooms, both public and private, are newly furnished with the coming in of every new Administration, we deem it unnecessary to trouble the reader with elaborate descriptions. All the public rooms may be examined by strangers at any time, but His Excellency the President can only be seen during those hours which he is pleased to designate. During the sessions of Congress the President usually has two reception evenings, on which occasions the public at large are privileged to pay him their respects and promenade the famous East Room. In addition to this it is generally expected of him that during each winter he will entertain at dinner all the members of both Houses of Congress and the Diplomatic Corps, so that official dinners have to be given by him

as often as twice a week. The grounds immediately around the Mansion are quite beautiful in themselves, but they present a particularly fine appearance during those summer afternoons when the citizens of Washington assemble there by hundreds and thousands for the purpose of enjoying the music of the Marine Band and the pleasures of a fashionable promenade.

In the centre of the small square immediately in front of the President's House, stands a bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson, executed by whom we know not, but presented to the Government by Capt. Levy of the United States Navy, the present proprietor of Monticello, the former abode of Mr. Jefferson. It is a handsome piece of statuary, and in its present position has quite a commanding appearance. Directly across Pennsylvania Avenue from the above mentioned square, is La Fayette Square, which, as before intimated, has recently been laid out in fashionable style, and planted with new shrubbery. Mill's Equestrian Statue of General Jackson, which is to occupy its centre, is a work of superior merit. It is in bronze, and was cast from certain cannon captured by General Jackson in some of his military engagements.

THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

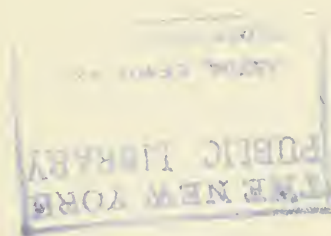


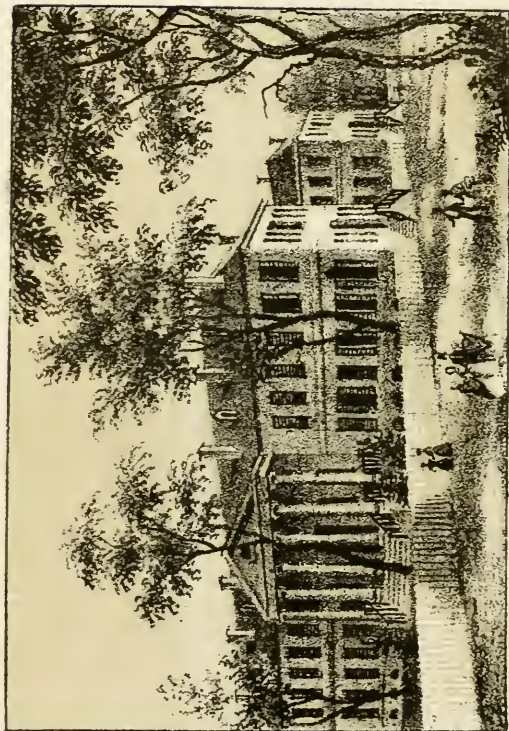
THE number of these is seven, and their official titles are as follows: the Department of State, the Treasury Department, the War Department, the Navy Department, Department of the Interior, the Post Office Department, and the office of the Attorney General.

The STATE DEPARTMENT, which stands north-east of the President's House and within the same enclosure, is a plain brick building, two stories high, 160 feet long and 55 wide, with a broad passage on both floors, and containing in all 32 rooms. It contains a handsome library of books, maps and charts, numbering perhaps some 15,000 distinct works, which are indispensable in the performance of the extensive and varied duties of the department. In addition to this collection, the Copyright Bureau contains some 10 or 12,000 volumes published in this country, which are kept with care as part and parcel of the archives of the Government. The total number of persons employed in this Department consist

of the Secretary, nineteen clerks, two messengers, and five watchmen. It is the department through which alone the diplomatic corps and all foreigners can hold any intercourse with the Government of the United States, and is of course the head-quarters of all the American Ministers and Consuls. And in this place it may be well to mention the countries which were represented in Washington at the commencement of the present year by accredited ministers, which were as follows:—Russia, Argentine Republic; Spain, Chili, Mexico, Brazil, Great Britain, France, Portugal, Prussia, Denmark, Austria, Netherland, the two Sicilies and Parma, Sardinia, Belgium, and Peru. With regard to American Ministers and Consuls, it were enough to say, that they may be found scattered to the four corners of the earth, in every place where they would be likely to do good.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT stands at the eastern extremity of the President's Square, (so called) and is a stone edifice, painted white, 340 feet long and 170 wide, but when the northern and southern wings are added it will be 457 feet in length. In front is an im-





War Department

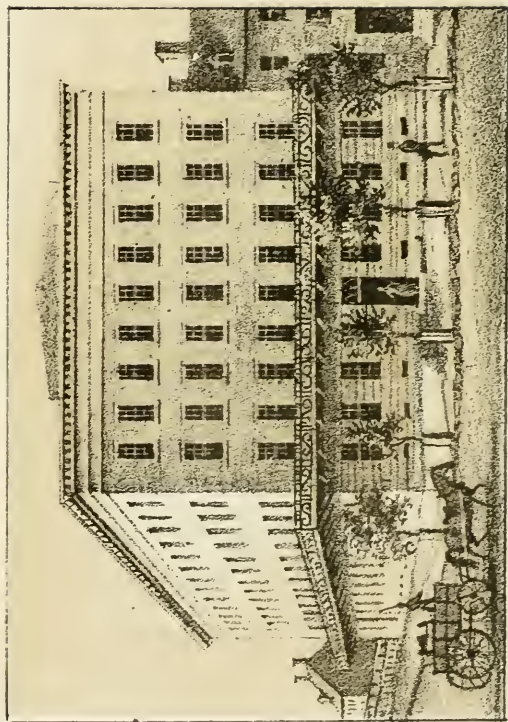
posing colonnade, stretching the entire length of the building, and the architect of the whole was Robert Mills. It has three floors upon which business is transacted, on each of which are nearly fifty apartments. This is the department where all the financial and commercial affairs of the country are attended to, and the amount of labor performed here at times is immense. The persons employed in this department are the Secretary, one Assistant Secretary, two Comptrollers, six Auditors, two Treasurers, one Register, one Solicitor, one Commissioner of Customs, about three hundred clerks, fifteen messengers, and twelve watchmen. A good legal library is attached to this department.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT building occupies the north-west corner of the President's Square, and is precisely similar in design to the State Department. It is the head-quarters of all the officers of the Army, and the main-spring of all the military movements. This department comprises in its economy the War Office proper, the Quartermaster's Department, the Engineer's Department, Bureau of Topographical Engineers, Ordnance Office, Sub-

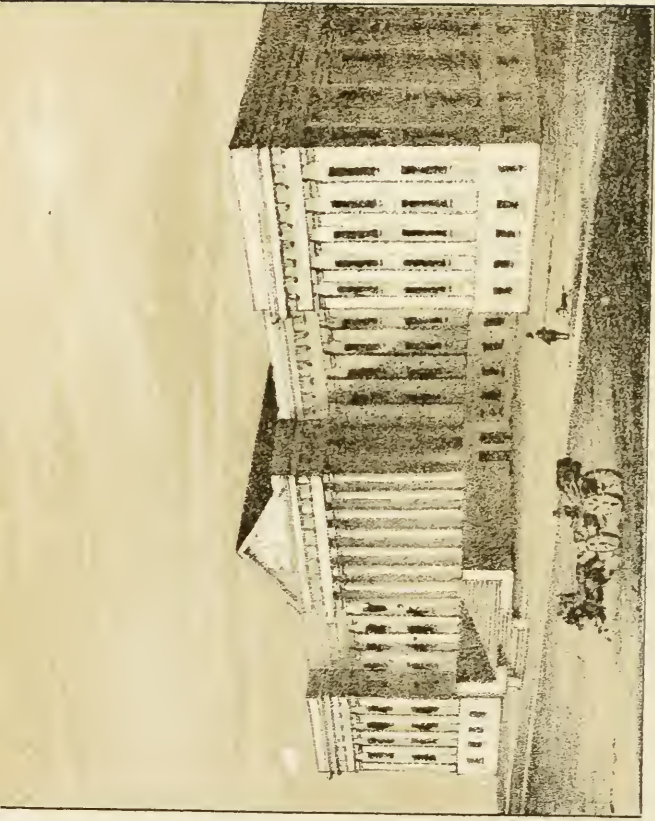
sistence Department, Pay Department, Medical Department, Office of Adjutant General and the head-quarters of the Major General or military Commander-in-Chief of the Army. The number of persons employed in this department exclusive of the Secretary and Officers of the Army is as follows:—clerks, 92; messengers, 10; and watchmen, 5. Besides the many accomplished and distinguished officers connected with the departments already mentioned, are those also employed in the field, belonging to the 1st and 2d Regiments of Dragoons, to the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, to the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th Regiments of Artillery, and to the 8th Regiment of Infantry. The War Department is furnished with a valuable library of some 10,000 volumes.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT building lies directly west of the President's House, and in the rear of the War Department. It has five Bureaus, exclusive of the Secretary's office, viz:—Bureau of Navy Yards and Docks, Bureau of Construction, Equipment and Repair; Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography, and Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. Besides the





Pension Office



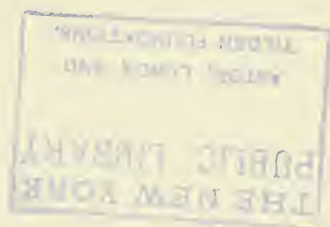
Patent Office.

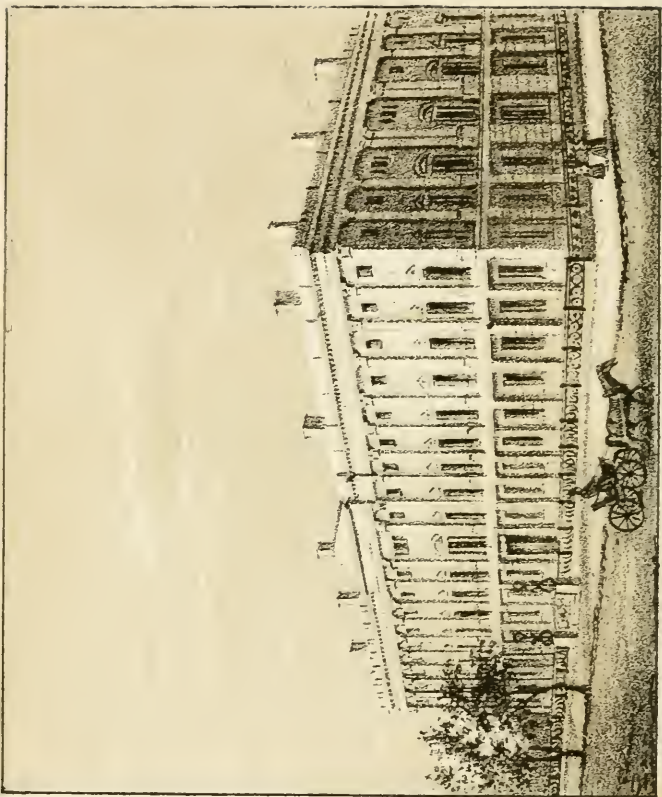
Secretary, the persons employed in them, are forty-two clerks and seven messengers.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, or Home Department is the most extensive connected with the Government. The building which it is destined to occupy, is yet unfinished; but when completed will be the most extensive and most interesting in the Metropolis. A portion of it is already occupied by one of the Bureaus of the Department (the Patent office) and also by the museum of the National Institute. The titles of the Bureaus connected with the Interior Department are as follows:—Land office, Patent office, Indian office, and Pension office. Exclusive of the Secretary and the Heads of the Bureaus, the persons employed are clerks, about one hundred and fifty, messengers and watchmen, about twenty-five. As its name indicates, this department has to do exclusively with all those matters bearing upon the internal economy of the United States, and is of course increasing in importance with every successive year. A library of some five thousand volumes is attached to this Department. In the second story of the building now occupied by the

Patent office are the invaluable relics of Washington, including his camp chest, the original Declaration of Independence, the gifts presented from time to time to the Government by foreign powers, Franklin's printing press, a collection of Indian portraits by King, the treasures of the National Institute, interesting memorials of the late James Smithson, and the extensive and rare treasures secured by the U. S. Exploring Expedition under Capt. Wilkes, in almost every department of national history and human ingenuity. Everything here is open to the inspection of the public, and the Hall is one of the most interesting for the stranger to visit, to be found in the Metropolis. In the first story of the same building are collected all the models of the machines which have been patented since the foundation of the Government.

One of the handsomest buildings in Washington is that occupied by the POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT. It was designed and built by Mr. Mills, of white marble and after the Corinthian order. It is three stories high, two hundred and four feet long, and one hundred and two deep: it contains twenty-seven rooms





Post Office

on each floor, making eighty-one in all. It occupies a central position in the city, near the Department of the Interior, both of which are about half a mile from the President's Square and the other departments. The employees are a Postmaster-General, three assistants, fifty clerks and six messengers.

With regard to the OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, which we have classed with the Executive branches of the Government, we have only to say that it derives its chief attraction from the person who may occupy it, who must be of necessity, a man of distinguished ability. Rooms are assigned to him in the Treasury building, and it is to him that all knotty questions, in all the departments, are submitted for final settlement.

THE NATIONAL OBSERVATORY.

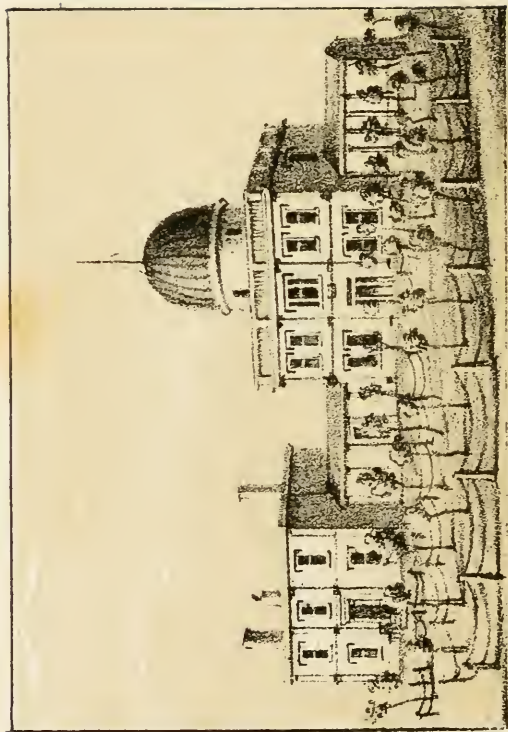


THE National Observatory is situated on the banks of the Potomac, in an oblique direction from the President's House, towards Georgetown. The site is a beautiful one, having a commanding view of Washington and Georgetown, of the Potomac River, and surrounding country, as far down as Fort Washington, opposite to Mount Vernon.

It is a Naval Institution under the control and management of Lieut. M. F. Maury, U. S. N. The force employed at it consists principally of Naval Officers.

Besides the Astronomical duties of the establishment, here are kept all the nautical books, charts and instruments belonging to the Navy.

The apartment in which the Chronometers are kept is a very interesting one. Before one of these instruments is purchased by Government, it is required to be put on trial by the Superintendent of the Observatory, for one year; during which period it is compared daily with the Great Astronomical Clock of the Ob-



Observatory

servatory, which regulates the time for the whole City. The temperature of the room in which it is kept is also carefully observed, and recorded every day. The test is a severe one, and in case the instrument fails to come up to it, it is returned to the maker at the end of the year.

The observations on the temperature in connexion with the performance of the Chronometer, enable the maker to improve the instrument, and on a second trial of another year it rarely fails to pass.

There are from 60 to 100 Chronometers always in this room, all of which are daily wound, and compared and treated in the manner described. Thus a complete and minute history is kept of each one.

Here also are conducted the celebrated researches connected with the "Wind and Current Charts;" the habits of the Whale, and a variety of phenomena connected with the great deep.

The National Observatory of Washington occupies a high rank among the Observatories in the world, there being but one—that of Russia—superior to it.

The largest telescope, called the Equatorial, is a 14 feet Refractor, with an object glass of 9 inches. It is mounted in the revolving dome on the top of the main building, and is so arranged with clock work and machinery, that being directed to a star in the morning, it may be left alone, when on returning to it in the evening, it will have followed the path of the star so exactly, that it will be found still pointing to the star, and the star will be visible through it. With its powers the stars are visible at mid-day.

In one room below are the Meridian and Mural Circles. In another, the Transit instrument; in another, the Prime Vertical Instrument; and in another yet, the Great Refraction Circle invented by the Superintendent. It is made by Ertel & Son, Munich, and taken altogether is, perhaps, one of the finest instruments any where to be found. Such is the delicacy of its construction, and such the accuracy of its adjustments, and the nicety of its performance, that the heat of the observer's person, as he approaches it to make an observation, is found to be one of its principal sources of error.

But perhaps the most wonderful object at this interesting Establishment is the Electro-Chronograph, invented by Dr. Locke, of Cincinnati.

It is in the room with the Transit Instrument, and is so arranged, by its connexion with an electrical battery in the building, that its ticks may be heard in any part of the country to which the magnetic wires lead, provided they be put in connexion with it. Thus it may be made of itself to record the time, and in such a manner, that the astronomer in Boston, New Orleans or elsewhere will know it, and tell the time of day by this clock, as well as one who stands before it and reads the hands on its face.

The Observatory regulates the time for Washington and Georgetown by the falling of a ball. At ten minutes before mean noon every day, a large black ball is hoisted to a flag staff, standing on the top of the dome. This is to give warning for those who wish to get the *exact* time of day to look out. Precisely at twelve, the ball drops. Thus the whole City is informed of the exact time.

John Q. Adams, who was a devoted friend of the Observatory, and who used to visit it

frequently in the last days of his life, has been known to walk all the way up to the Observatory from his lodgings, to see the ball fall.

The Office hours at this Establishment are from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.—within those hours, visitors will always find an officer ready to receive them and to show them every attention that politeness can bestow.

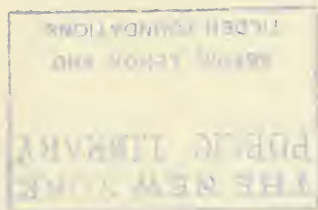


THE WASHINGTON ARSENAL.



THE Arsenal occupies a fine position on the extreme southern point of the City, (called Greenleaf's Point,) at the junction of the Eastern Branch with the Potomac, commanding a beautiful and extensive view, over a broad expanse of water, towards the Cities of Washington and Georgetown on the North and Alexandria on the South. The channels of both rivers running near the Arsenal shore, afford all requisite facilities for receiving and shipping Ordnance and other Military Stores.

Although this site was originally reserved for the purpose of an Arsenal, it was not oc-





cupied by any building of importance until after the peace of 1814, when the building of the present establishment was commenced under the direction of the late Col. George Bomford. From the small square embraced in the first plan the buildings have been gradually extended until they occupy nearly the whole reservation, and form one of the principal Arsenals of Construction in the United States.

The work-shops contain much useful and ingenious Machinery, propelled by Steam, for manufacturing Gun Carriages and Equipments for Artillery, and for preparing ammunition of all kinds. Among these may be noticed particularly the Machines for planing and boring iron and wood, those for tenoning and morticing the spokes and hubs of wheels. Blanchard's ingenious lathe for turning irregular forms in wood, such as spokes, axe handles, &c., the machinery for making leaden Bullets by pressing them out of the bar lead instead of casting them; and above all, the beautiful machine for making and charging Percussion Caps, for small arms, invented by Mr. George Wright, a workman at the Arsenal. By this last mentioned machine, a sheet of Copper

being inserted on one side and some percussion powder put in a hopper on the other, the finished Caps are produced without any further agency of the workman.

In the spacious Storehouses of the Arsenal are to be seen Arms and Equipments for the troops; also a large number of Gun Carriages and other apparatus for the service of the Artillery in the forts and in the field, from the ponderous Columbiad for the defence of the coast, to the little mountain howitzer, which may be transported, with its miniature smith's forge, on the back of a mule.

The MODEL OFFICE contains a collection of models or patterns of the various arms and military Equipments used in our Service, and also of such of those used in the Armies of other nations as have been obtained by the Ordnance Department. Here may also be seen some specimens of old and new inventions, repeating Arms, Revolvers, &c., which have been suggested, at home or abroad, by the organ of destructiveness.

In the *Gun lot* are arranged many pieces of Ordnance and piles of Balls, mostly of heavy calibre for the armament of the forts.

In front of the old Arsenal Square a small collection of foreign Brass Cannon will attract the notice of the visitor, who will perceive by the inscriptions that some of them are trophies of the success of our Arms at Saratoga, Yorktown, Niagara, and Vera Cruz. The Guns and Carriages of Duncan's Field Battery, which performed distinguished service on nearly every field of battle in the Mexican War, are likewise preserved at the Arsenal, as a saluting battery.

On the West side of the Arsenal Grounds, near the river, are two pyramidal structures which often attract the curiosity of visitors and of persons passing by the Arsenal. These buildings contain an apparatus called a Ballistic Pendulum, which is used for testing the force of Gunpowder when fired in heavy Ordnance, and also for trying many other interesting experiments in Gunnery.

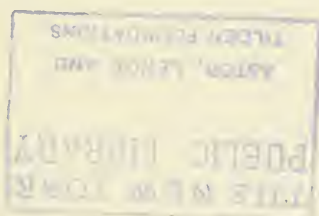
THE NAVY YARD.

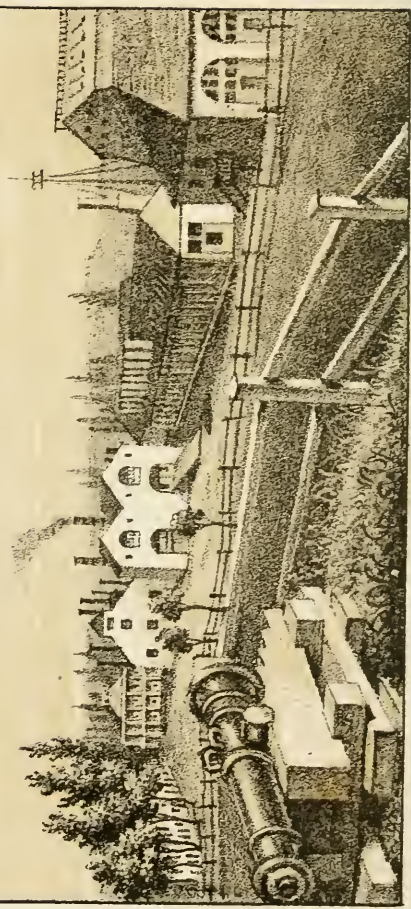


HE Navy Yard is situated on the "Anacostia," a branch of the Potomac river, at the southern termination of Eighth street, East. It was established in the year 1800, on the public reservation No. 14, to which Squares No. 883 and 884 were subsequently added. Commodore Tingey was ordered to the command, and to him was assigned the duty of superintending the construction of the several vessels ordered to be built here, and also the general arrangement of the grounds, with a view to furnishing increased accommodation for the future construction and equipment of large Ships of War.

The area covers about twenty acres, and is enclosed by a substantial brick wall, having a principal entrance at the foot of Eighth street, through a handsome arched gateway, designed by the late celebrated architect, Benjamin H. Latrobe, Esq.

Several comfortable residences have been erected for the accommodation of the Commodore, the Executive officer, the first Lieuten-





ant, Surgeon, Sailing-master, Boatswain and Gunner, whose official duties require their constant attendance in the Yard.

The mechanical operations of this Establishment are various and extensive, and the skill of the workmen and the excellence of the materials employed have been satisfactorily tested in every sea. Anchors of all sizes, for the Naval service, are manufactured by the use of two heavy steam-hammers, (termed the "Nasmyth Hammer,") one of which weighs 3,600 pounds, the other 2,240 pounds. The forges for this work are kept in blast by a fan blower attached to the steam engine in the Machinist's department. There is also in operation, in the Anchor department, a Direct Action Steam-hammer (called the "Kirk Hammer,") in connexion with a blast furnace for working up, into blooms and bars, all the scrap iron of the Navy. The massive chain cables, are made in another Shop, which is provided with a powerful Hydrostatic Press for testing their strength. These cables are highly esteemed for their superior finish, great strength and durability. From sixty to eighty men are ordinarily employed in this department.

Another department is engaged in the manufacture of Galleys, Cabooses, and copper Powder-tanks, and of the various kinds of brass work appertaining to Ships of War. The different machines employed in making these articles, are driven by a Steam Engine of about fifteen horse power. A Brass Foundry is connected with this range of buildings, on the eastern side of the Yard.

A large and extensive Iron Foundry has recently been erected, of sufficient capacity and with the necessary facilities for moulding and casting the heaviest work; connected with this foundry are the machines for boring, turning and planing the Steam Cylinders and other massive machinery required for the Naval Service. Adjoining the Iron Foundry are the Ordnance and Boiler-making departments, which are provided with a Steam Engine of about twelve horse power. The Ordnance department is engaged in the fabrication of light brass Ordnance, Howitzers for boat and land service, of Shot and Shells, Percussion Caps, Musket and Pistol Balls, &c. Some of this machinery is very ingenious and highly interesting. The Boiler Shop contains all the

machinery necessary for the construction of Boilers.

Close by this range of buildings, is a very extensive Machine Shop, in which are placed all the tools required in the manufacture of Steam Engines and machinery of every description. When completed it will afford room room for the employment of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred workmen. Attached to this Shop is an engine of sixty horse power, which also gives motion to the Block-making machinery and to the Fan-blowers of the Anchor-making department.

On the Western side of the Yard is the Pyrotechnical Laboratory, in which are prepared all the articles for the Navy appropriate to this department.

A Rolling Mill is in the course of construction, which will be furnished with an engine of two hundred horse power, (now being constructed in the Yard,) together with the necessary machinery for manufacturing all the bolt, sheathing, brazier's and boiler copper for the use of the Navy; also, a Rolling apparatus, &c., for working up the bloom iron, made by "Kirk's Faggoting Hammer," into bolts and bar iron.

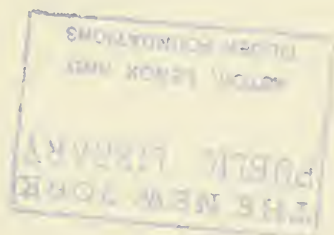
There are two large Ship Houses, for building Ships, under one of which is about to be constructed a Marine Railway for hauling up steamers, for repair.

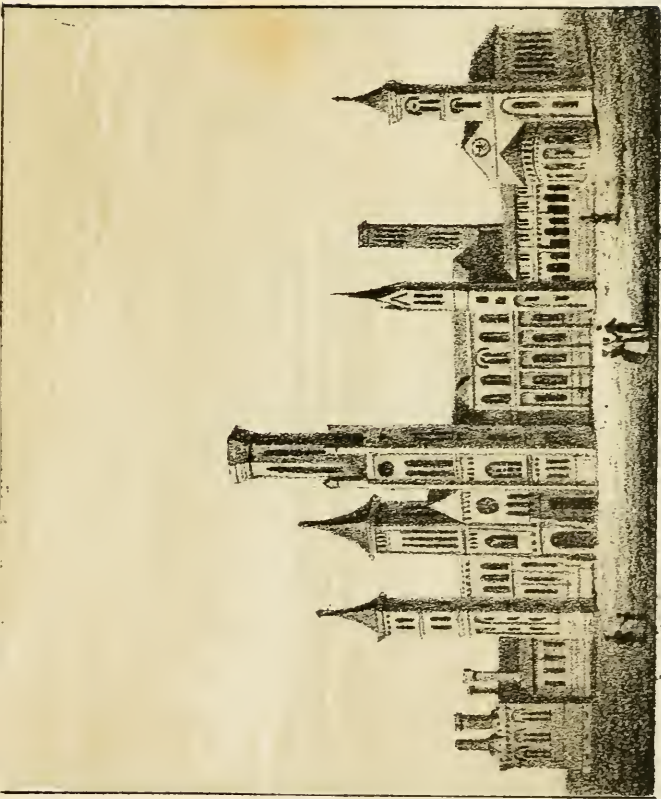
In the Yard there are ordinarily employed from four hundred to four hundred and fifty Mechanics and laborers. The grounds are beautifully laid out; the avenues shaded with fine trees; the plats neatly enclosed, and the whole preserved in handsome order.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.



HIS Institution was founded upon a bequest of more than half a million of dollars, made to the United States by an Englishman named James Smithson, a man of good family, and of sufficient learning to have published in the Transactions of the Royal Society and other Journals no less than twenty-four scientific treatises, the majority of which were on Mineral Chemistry. The object of the bequest, according to his will, was "To found at Wash-





Smithsonian Institution

ington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an Establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." On the 1st of July, 1836, Congress solemnly accepted this important trust, and the money was paid into the Treasury of the United States in 1838. The Act of Congress establishing the Institution as it now exists, was passed in 1846. By this Act, the President, Vice President, all the Members of the Cabinet, the Chief Justice, the Commissioner of the Patent Office and the Mayor of Washington, during the time for which they should hold their offices, were made the *personnel* of the Institution; and they are to be assisted by Board of Regents, who were to be empowered to elect a Chancellör, a Secretary, and an Executive Committee.

The Institution is situated on the Mall below the Capitol, and though the edifice is yet in an unfinished state, it presents a noble appearance, and is unquestionably one of the great attractions of the Metropolis. The style of the Architecture is the Romanesque, the material a reddish free-stone of fine grain, its extreme length is four hundred and fifty feet, its width one hundred and forty feet, and it

has nine towers varying in height from seventy-five to one hundred and fifty feet. The grounds which surround it are very extensive, and are now in progress of being beautified by Mr. Downing.

The Secretary of the Institution is *Professor Joseph Henry*, who has the reputation of being one of the most accomplished scientific men of the age, and the property of the Institution and its general operations are in his charge; his two principal assistants are *Prof. Spencer F. Baird*, who is at the head of the Natural History department, and *Prof. Charles C. Jewett*, the Librarian.

To describe minutely the interior economy of this important establishment is not our intention in this place. We can only say that its beneficial influence upon the world at large has already been felt; it has already printed and circulated a number of valuable volumes, acquired collections in the way of natural history and scientific as well as general literature which are very valuable and very interesting, and engaged distinguished men to deliver lectures. The great library room when completed will be capable of holding one hundred thousand volumes. The building is sup-

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY


ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.



Washington Monument

plied with a lecture room, which will seat twelve hundred persons; and its Museum, when completed, will be two hundred feet long, and filled with the wonders of nature and art from all parts of the world; its rooms for Chemical experiments will be more spacious and convenient than any to be found in the country: and in the western wing which is one hundred and twenty feet long, will hereafter be located a gallery of Art.

THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

S this Structure is not yet finished, we will not describe it as it is, but as it will be when completed, according to the design adopted by the Board of Managers. It stands on the Mall, between the President's House and the Potomac, and embraces the idea of a grand circular colonnaded building two hundred and fifty feet in diameter, one hundred feet high, from which springs an obelisk shaft seventy feet in diameter at the base and five hundred feet

high, making a total elevation of six hundred feet.

The vast rotundo, forming the grand base of the Monument, will be surrounded by thirty columns of massive proportions, twelve feet in diameter and forty-five feet high, elevated upon a base of twenty feet in height and three hundred feet square, surmounted by an entablature twenty feet high, and crowned by a massive balustrade fifteen feet in height. The terrace outside the colonnade will be twenty-five feet wide, and the walk within the colonnade twenty-five feet. The front portico will be adorned with a triumphal car and Statue of the Illustrious Chief; and over each column around the entire building will be sculptured escutcheons, coats of arms of each State of the Union, surrounded by bronze civic wreaths, banded together by festoons of oak leaves, while the centre of the portico will be emblazoned with the coat of arms of the U. States. Around the rotundo will be stationed statues of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence: in niches prepared for the purpose, statues of the Fathers of the Revolution contemporary with Washington; and directly opposite to the entrance will be placed a statue of

Washington himself. The interior of the shaft will be embellished with a great variety of inscriptions ; at one point it will be ornamented with four of the leading events of Washington's career sculptured in *basso relievo*, above which will be placed a single star, emblematic of the glory which the name of Washington has attained ; and in the centre of the Monument will be placed the Tomb of the Father of his country.

THE NATIONAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.



THE National Medical College, instituted in 1823, is now in successful operation. It was until a few years past known as the medical department of the Columbian College, from which institution it derives its authority to confer Degrees under an act of incorporation from the Congress of the United States.

In assuming its present name it was newly organized, and its facilities for instruction greatly extended.

In addition to the usual advantages afforded for the prosecution of medical study within the institution, its location at the seat of the General Government, offers collateral advantages not to be found elsewhere. The Library of Congress, the Library and Lectures of the Smithsonian Institution, together with the various scientific collections and the scientific departments connected with the Government are all (without charge) accessible to students.

The Lecture rooms of the College are in the building of the Washington City Infirmary, uniting the advantages (after the manner of most European medical schools) of public lectures, within the Hospital building where clinical instruction may be secured without loss of time or comfort to the student.

The edifice is conveniently situated in a central part of the city—equal distant from the Capitol and President's House—near the principal hotels and boarding houses—and at the same time secluded from the noise and bustle of business.

Clinical lectures are given daily at the bedside of patients, where students have an opportunity of seeing disease not only correctly diagnosæ, but of observing for themselves the

results of therapeutic and dietetic treatment. The wards of the Hospital being well filled with patients, presenting any variety of disease both acute and chronic, furnish ample means for rendering this method very efficient and thorough. There is an Anatomical and Pathological Museum, containing a collection of preparations, models and drawings, to which the students have daily access, and which the Faculty are constantly enlarging.

The advantages for the pursuit of Practical Anatomy are not surpassed by those of any other medical school.

There are seven professorships which are all filled as follows:

Thomas Miller, M. D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.

William P. Johnston, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.

Joshua Riley, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Hygiene.

Jno. Fred. May, M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

Grafton Tyler, M. D., Professor of Pathology and Practice of Medicine.

Robert King Stone, M. D., Professor of Microscopical and Pathological Anatomy.

Edward Foreman, M. D., Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

James E. Morgan, M. D., Prosector and Demonstrator.

The Lectures of this Institution commence on the first Monday of November annually, and continue until March.

The entire expense for a full course of Lectures, by all the Professors, is . . \$95

Practical Anatomy, by the Demonstrator, 10

Matriculating Fee, payable only once, 5

Graduating expenses, 25

Good board can be procured at from two fifty to three dollars per week, and the Janitor will refer such students as may apply to him upon their arrival, to boarding houses of this description.

The requisites for graduating are, that the candidate shall have attended the lectures of each Professor two full courses, or one full course in this school, and one full course in some other respectable Institution. He must have a fair moral character, and he shall have dissected during at least one session. He shall have entered his name with the Dean of the Faculty as a candidate for graduation, and delivered to him an Inaugural Dissertation

upon some medical subject, thirty days before the close of the session, and pass a satisfactory examination.

All persons who have attended two full courses of lectures in this school are entitled to attend succeeding courses free of expense.

THE COLUMBIAN COLLEGE.



HIS Institution, which was incorporated in 1821, is beautifully situated on an eminence, adjoining the City Corporation on the North, and on 14th street West. It is a fine brick edifice, four stories high, and overlooks the City, the Capitol, and other Public Buildings; and commands a fine view of the Potomac, with the surrounding country, for many miles in extent. In beauty and healthfulness of position, it is unsurpassed; and its local advantages are such as no other situation in the country can afford.


Its proximity to the National Metropolis gives to young men the opportunity of observ-

ing distinguished public characters ; of becoming acquainted with the nature and operations of our Government ; and of witnessing the highest exhibitions of talent, in the halls of Congress, and in the Supreme Court of the U. States. This is a great advantage, especially to those who are destined to public life ; and its practical effects are seen, in the number of its Alumni who are now filling important and useful stations in society.

The College has a good Library, a valuable Philosophical Apparatus, and other means and facilities for pursuing a thorough and liberal course of studies. The last Catalogue, (1850,) embraces—Officers—a President, and twelve Professors and Teachers—including those of the National Medical College, which is under the same Corporation—one hundred students ; and between two and three hundred Alumni.

The expenses of a student, including board, tuition, and all College charges, are about \$180 per annum ; for those who do not board in the College, it is about \$65 or \$70 per annum.

THE COAST SURVEY OFFICE.



THE buildings occupied for the uses of the United States Coast Survey are situated on the W. side of New Jersey Avenue, about a sixth of a mile from the Capitol. They consist of four old houses, in a block, presenting a decidedly rusty exterior, and in no way looking like public buildings.

The room of the Superintendent, Prof. A. D. Bache, is at the North end, and that of the Assistant in charge of the Office is at the South end. At present this place is filled by brevet Major J. J. Stevens, U. S. corps of Engineers. The office of Mr. Samuel Hein, Disbursing officer of the Survey is in the South middle building. Most of the rooms in the upper stories is appropriated to computers, draughtsmen and engravers. The fire proof building South of the office, contains the Archives, or Records of Observations, the Library, the Standard Weights, Balances and Measures, the Instruments not in use, and the engraved copper plates.

The Office proper includes all the Departments necessary for working up the materials, both astronomical, topographical, and hydrographic, sent in by the various observers. All these are under the general direction of the Assistant in charge, and under the special direction of their particular heads. The Departments are those for Computing, Drawing, Engraving, Electrotyping, Printing, Publishing, Instrument making, and Archives. When the computations are completed, the materials of the plane table and hydrographic sheets are worked up in the Drawing Department, for the Engravers. The engraved copper-plates are electrotyped, and the printing is done mainly from these, the originals being preserved. The printed sheets are distributed for sale to agents in the principal cities.

The Coast Survey Office, being essentially an office for work, presents but scanty attractions for visitors. Persons wishing to examine any of the methods or processes employed, or desiring information about matters of the Survey, should apply to the Assistant in charge.

As the construction of Standard Weights and Measures is carried on in the same buildings with the Coast Survey Works, and is

under the same Superintendent, it ought to be mentioned that a visit to this department will greatly interest the visitor. Here may not only be seen much in the way of curious scientific operations but also a finished set of Standard Weights, Balances, and Measures, such as are furnished to the States and Custom Houses of the Union. The Assistant and Foreman of the department of Weights and Measures is Mr. J. Saxton, who always takes pleasure in treating strangers with politeness and attention. The gentleman under whose superintendence all the complicated affairs of the Coast Survey are carried on, is Prof. A. D. Bache, whose reputation as a man of science is co-extensive with the civilized world. He is assisted in his arduous duties by some thirty-five assistants and quite a large number of Navy Officers; and it is a remarkable circumstance that the Superintendent has lost *two* brothers, both of whom were officers of the Navy, but employed upon the Coast Survey,—one of them having perished in the waters of Pacific, and the other in those of the Atlantic.

THE NATIONAL CEMETERY.



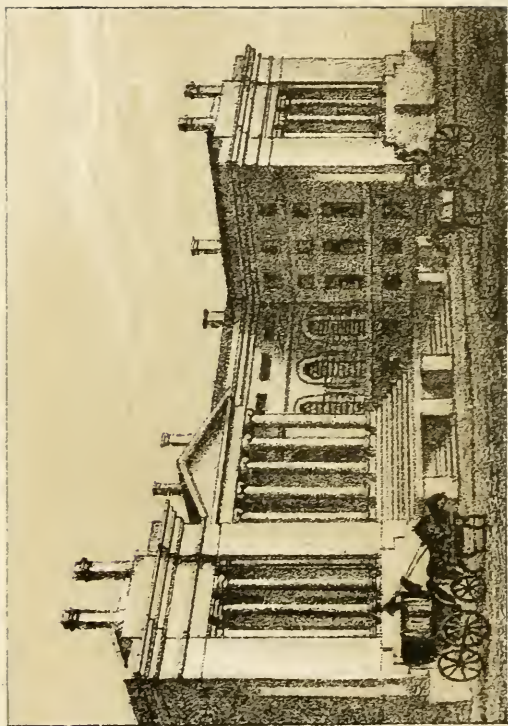
HE National or Congressional Burial Ground is situated about one mile east of the Capitol, embraces about ten acres, commands an extensive view of the country, is well enclosed with a brick wall, laid out with taste, and beautified with trees and shrubbery. It was located in 1807, and ever since been in the keeping of an incorporated company. The Monuments are manifold and many of them beautiful; and in addition to several private vaults is one spacious and well constructed, enclosed by a neat railing, built by the order and at the expense of Congress, as a place of deposite, for the dead whose remains it may be the purpose of friends subsequently to remove.

Measures have recently been adopted to enlarge this Cemetery, and some twenty additional acres will soon be brought within its limits.

A visit to the "City of the Dead" cannot but prove interesting to the stranger visiting the Metropolis, and among the few

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City Hall

and picturesque monuments which will attract his attention, are those to the memory of George Clinton, Elbridge Gerry, Major General Jacob Brown, Joseph Lovel, Commodore Rogers' son, A. P. Upshur, Commodore Beverly Kennon, Lieut. G. M. Bache, Capt. B. A. Terrett, the wife of Peter von Schmidt, Judge Pendleton Barbour, and Peter Lenox. Quite a large number of Members of Congress have been buried here, and there is a mournful interest in wandering among the monuments which commemorate their names.



THE CITY HALL.



HIS large and handsome edifice, the official home of the City Fathers, was commenced in 1820 and finished in 1850, it having remained a kind of ruin during most of the intervening time. It occupies a commanding position on Judiciary Square, is 200 feet in length, and after the stucco style of architecture. The Circuit and Criminal Courts hold their sessions in this hall; also the members of the City Councils. The

Mayor has his office here, and so also have a large number of the City Attorneys.

In this connexion it may be well for us to give the Judiciary of Washington which is as follows:

Circuit Court of the District.—Chief Judge, William Cranch.—Associate Judges, James S. Morsell and James Dunlop.—Attorney, P. R. Fendall.—Marshal, Richard Wallach.—Clerk, J. A. Smith.

Criminal Court for the District.—Judge, Thomas H. Crawford.—Clerk, John A. Smith.

Orphans' Court.—Judge, Wm. F. Purcell.—Register, Edward N. Roach.


THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.



HE Schools of Washington are quite numerous: Of free public schools there are four, with quite a large retinue of primary schools, which are carried on at an annual expense of about \$12,000. Select schools and seminaries for


the education of both sexes, also exist in different parts of the City, several of them of a high and established character. Public attention has been strongly directed to these institutions, and perhaps in no other city are there to be found superior advantages of education, which are annually on the increase. There are also several excellent boarding schools in Washington, and two or three in Georgetown.

MR. FORCE'S LIBRARY.

LTHOUGH this is exclusively a private establishment, its reputation will warrant us in making a passing allusion to it. The number of volumes which it contains cannot be less than 50,000, comprehending a larger collection bearing upon the History of the United States, than can be found elsewhere under one roof, in this or any other country. Some of the rooms attached to it, are also enriched with works of Art of almost every description, and it is just one of those places where the lover


of old and rich books cannot fail to spend many pleasant hours. Col. Force is always at home, and takes great pleasure in treating with attention those who may call upon him, provided they can appreciate the compliment and the privilege.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE.



HE Institution was founded in 1840, and has for its object the promotion of Science in all departments. It holds its meetings and has its headquarters at the Patent Office, and the President is Peter Force, Esq. It has a miscellaneous library of nearly 4,000 vols., pamphlets, maps and charts, with a few interesting manuscripts; and in the cabinet are many medals and coins. The Library is always open to the inspection of the public.

THE CHURCHES OF WASHINGTON.



HE Metropolis is well supplied with Churches, and considering its extent is quite as well supplied with eloquent preachers, as any city in the Union. Of Baptist Churches there are four, one on Tenth street, one on E, and two on Virginia Avenue; their Congregations are all large and their pastors popular. Of Catholic Churches there are four, St. Mathew's, on H street, St. Peter's, on Second, St. Patrick's, on F, and St. Mary's, on Fifth. Of Episcopal Churches there are five, viz. Christ Church, on G street, St. John's, on H, Trinity on Third, Epiphany, on G, and Ascension, on H. The Trinity Church edifice is the handsomest, devoted to religion, in the City;—it is after the Gothic style of Architecture, and its pastor is one of the most popular Clergymen in the District; and in addition to all these qualifications, it is the Church where Mr. Webster and Mr. Clay are in the habit of attending, when in Washington. In this Church, as indeed in all the other Churches of the City, a certain number of pews are assigned to stran-

gers. St. John's Church stands directly in front of the President's House, and when the President happens to attend there, is considered the meeting place of the ton. There is also one Quaker meeting held in the City, on I street; and two Lutheran Churches, the English on H street, and the German on G street. Of Methodist Churches there are seven in the City: one on 4th, one on 14th, one on 5th, one on Massachusetts Avenue, one on Maryland Avenue, one on 9th street, and one on Virginia Avenue. Of Presbyterian Churches there are six, one on F street, one on 8th street, one on 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ street, one on H, and two on 9th street. There is also one Unitarian Church in the City, on D street; and of colored Churches there are some half dozen scattered about the City.

In Georgetown there are two Episcopal Churches, one Presbyterian, one Catholic, and several Methodists and Baptists.

ASSOCIATIONS AND SOCIETIES.



F these, there is so great a number in Washington that we can only give their titles without any comments or particulars. Of Masonic Lodges, there are no less than seven, viz: Federal Lodge, Naval Lodge, Potomac Lodge, Lebanon Lodge, New Jerusalem Lodge, Hiram Lodge, and Grand Lodge. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows have a very fine Hall, where 17 Lodges and Encampments are in the habit of meeting; of the Order of Red Men, there are four Tribes and one Council; of the Sons of Temperance 12 Divisions; and of United Brothers of Temperance 4 Associations. The miscellaneous societies of the city are the Columbian Typographical, Washington Library, Vini Lyceum, three Benevolent Societies, and the Freeman's Vigilant Total Abstinence Society.


The Banks of Washington are the Bank of the Metropolis, Patriotic Bank, and Bank of Washington; the Banking Houses, Corcoran & Riggs, Chubb & Schenck, and Selden, Withers & Co.

WASHINGTON HOTELS.



OTELS are quite numerous, but not sufficiently so, even now, to accommodate the public. With one or two unimportant exceptions, they are all situated on Pennsylvania Avenue. The names of the principal ones are the National Hotel, Brown's Hotel, Willard's Hotel, Gadsby's Hotel, the Irving Hotel, the United States Hotel, the Potomac Hotel, and Tyler's Hotel. The finest hotel edifice in Washington is that recently erected by Mr. Brown, which is very large and has a beautiful marble front. All these hotels are supplied with the best of a first rate Market, and with numerous and generally accommodating servants. From the doors of each, the stranger may at almost any moment step into a convenient and elegant omnibus, and go to almost any part of the city he may desire.

Georgetown.

O stranger at the Seat of Government should ever think of omitting a visit to Georgetown, which is on the Potomac above Washington, and only separated from it by a charming stream called Rock Creek. It was formerly a place of considerable commercial importance, and is even now a thriving and busy place. It is connected with the Coal region of Cumberland by the Ohio and Chesapeake Canal, and with New York, Boston, and the West Indies by lines of sailing packets.

The lofty eminences that overlook the town from the North and West are known as the Heights of Georgetown. Along these elevations gentlemen of wealth have built their dwellings, and cultivated beautiful and extensive gardens.

The prospects from these Heights, of the great Valley of the Potomac and of the entire City of Washington, have been considered by travellers as unsurpassed in point of grandeur and beauty by any thing of the kind in the

United States. Among the attractions of Georgetown are the College, the Convent, the Female Seminary, the Aqueduct, the Cemetery and the Little Falls.

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE, D. C.



GEORGETOWN College is situated on the northern bank of the Potomac at the west end of Georgetown, and commands a full view of Georgetown, Washington, the Potomac, and a great part of the District of Columbia. Its situation is peculiarly healthy.

In the year 1785, five gentlemen, the principal of whom was the Rev. John Carroll, afterwards the first Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore, formed a design of building "An Academy at Georgetown, Potowmack River, Maryland." In 1789, the first house was built; in 1792 the schools commenced, and in 1798 we find it "The College of Georgetown, Potomac River, State of Maryland." In May, 1815, Congress raised it to the rank

of an University. In May, 1851, "The Medical Department of Georgetown College" was opened in Washington, D. C.

The College buildings are spacious, and contain a fine Library of 25,000 volumes, an extensive Philosophical Apparatus, and a neat Museum of Natural History. An Astronomical Observatory, sixty feet long by thirty wide and furnished with Instruments of the first class, stands three hundred yards West of the College.

The Academic year begins on the 15th of September, and ends on the last of July. The collegiate Course of Studies occupies generally seven years, inclusive of the preparatory classes, which last four years, unless the proficiency of the Student authorize an abbreviation of that term. The English Department, for those who cannot devote the time to the collegiate Course, embraces all the branches of a thorough English education, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy, together with French, included.

The Public are admitted at all hours of the day to see the Establishment, and the President or some of the Professors, themselves, generally wait on visitors.

ACADEMY OF THE VISITATION.



THIS Academy, founded in 1799, is in a healthy and airy situation, on the Heights of Georgetown in the District of Columbia, contiguous to the eastern margin of the Potomac. The windows command a view of this magnificent river, and at a distance of the City of Wash-ton. The ladies who are entrusted with the direction and care of the studies, are members of the Religious Order, founded in 1610, by St. Francis de Sales, and directed at the commencement by St. Jane Frances Fremiot de Chantal. Meekness, benevolence, and a moderate indulgence constituted the character of those venerated benefactors of society, in their direction of youth. It is the study of their daughters to display these virtues, in the fulfilment of the high obligations imposed upon them by the confidence of their friends.

The course of instruction comprises Orthography, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Ancient and Modern Geography, the use of the Globes, Prose and Poetical Composition, Sacred and Profane History, Mythology, Rhe-



Monastery

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toric, Astronomy, Moral and Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Mineralogy, Botany, Geometry, Algebra, Book-keeping, French, Spanish, Italian, German, and Latin Languages, Music on the Piano, Harp, Guitar, and Organ, Vocal Music, Drawing, Painting in Water Colors, in Oil, and on Velvet, Plain and Ornamental Needle Work, Tapestry, Lace Work, Bead Work, &c.


A public distribution of premiums takes place on the last Wednesday of July.

The annual vacation commences on the last Thursday of July—the exercises re-commence on the first Monday in September.

As regards the exact observance of rules, polite deportment, and zeal for advancement, the young ladies are divided into two circles. A crown and gold medal are awarded to the first in the Senior Circle, and a crown is awarded to the first in the Junior Circle.


Strangers are permitted to visit the Academy every day excepting Sunday; the most convenient hours are from 11 until 2 o'clock.

THE FEMALE SEMINARY.

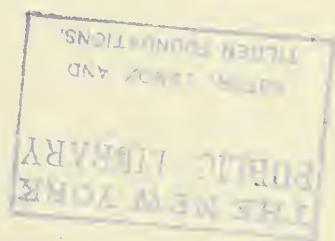


SHIS occupies an extensive building in the centre of the town, and is under the superintendence of Miss English. The institution has long been considered one of the very best in the Union of the kind, the teachers are numerous and highly accomplished, and the young ladies who attend here, are taught not only all the ordinary branches of education, but also all the elegant accomplishments of the day, Music, Drawing, and the Languages. Pupils have been sent from this Seminary into all parts of the Union, enriched with the knowledge and adorned with the graces, which it has ever imparted with remarkable success.

THE AQUEDUCT



WHICH spans the Potomac at Georgetown, is a stupendous work, and has attracted the attention of European as well as American architects and men of science. It was constructed by Major Turnbull, of the




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Topographical Engineers, and cost nearly \$2,000,000. It has nine piers, whose foundations, which are of granite, are no less *than thirty-six feet under water*; it is fourteen hundred and forty-six feet long, and rises above the water about forty feet. It connects the Ohio and Chesapeake Canal with Alexandria. The scenery of the river at this point, is varied and interesting.

THE GEORGETOWN CEMETERY

S located on the heights of the town, and is one of its chief ornaments. It was laid out at the expense, and under the direction of the wealthy and very noble-hearted Banker, William W. Corcoran, Esq., as a tribute of his affection for the place of his birth. The situation directly on Rock Creek is romantic to a great degree, and the best taste has been displayed in its arrangement. It has a porter's lodge, a receiving tomb, and a beautiful Gothic chapel, which combine to make a visit to the spot quite entertaining.

The Little Falls.



THESE are about three miles above Georgetown, and at the head of tide water. The great Potomac is here so greatly contracted that a stone can be easily tossed from one shore to the other; the fall of water is about fifteen feet; the surrounding scenery is wild and exceedingly picturesque; and the spot is particularly famous as a resort for the followers of the gentle art. The principal game fish caught here are the rock fish or striped basse, and the spot is sometimes visited by the anglers of places as remote as Baltimore and Charleston. The fame of the Little Falls has been somewhat increased of late years, by the fact that it has become a favorite angling haunt of the Hon. Daniel Webster.

The Great Falls of the Potomac, which are well worth visiting, are about ten miles further up the river, and may be reached by carriage or canal boat.

Arlington House.



Y this name is the mansion of *George Washington Park Custis* designated. It occupies a commanding position on the Virginia side of the Potomac, nearly opposite Georgetown. The edifice is extensive, elegant and imposing, two hundred feet above the water, and commands a very fine view of the Capitol. At this place are carefully preserved many rare and valuable pictures and other relics, descended from the ancestors of Mr. Custis, and some of them once in the possession of Gen. Washington: for example, the Mount Vernon Plate, and the Bed and Bedstead of Washington on which he expired. Among the pictures are portraits by Vandyke, Kneller, Stuart, and Trumbull, which are alone worth a pilgrimage to the place, where the accomplished proprietor is always happy to see his friends, who annually pay him their respects by thousands.

Alexandria.

ALTHOUGH no longer within the District of Columbia, yet this City is deserving of a passing notice on account of its venerable age and its attractions as a commercial town. It is on the southern bank of the Potomac, about six miles below Washington, and is accessible both by steamboats and omnibuses. Like its rival in commerce, Georgetown, it can look back upon the vicissitudes of over one hundred years. That it was early a place of some note, is shown by the fact, that five Colonial Governors met here by appointment in 1775, to take measures with General Braddock respecting his expedition to the West, and the said expedition started from this place. But the reminiscences which the people of Alexandria mostly cherish are those which associate their town with the domestic attachments and habits of General Washington, in whose letters may be found a number of kindly allusions to his friends

residing in this town. His friendly interest was manifested on various occasions, and especially so by bequeathing to the inhabitants a legacy of £1,000 for a Free Public School. The stranger in Alexandria is still pointed to the Church of which he was a Vestryman, to the pew which he customarily occupied, and many striking memorials of his life are preserved with care.

In the neighborhood of this City is the Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church of Virginia, with a number of very able and distinguished Professors.

It is also supplied with the somewhat peculiar attraction for a southern City, of a Museum. It comprises many personal relics of General Washington, and also a large and valuable collection of specimens in Natural History. Its other attractions are interesting but not especially peculiar.

Mount Vernon.



F all the spots associated with the National Metropolis, Mount Vernon is beyond all question the most interesting and attractive. It is situated on the southern branch of the Potomac, fifteen miles from Washington and eight from Alexandria. Heretofore the most usual mode of visiting it has been by Steamboat to Alexandria and the balance of the way by carriage, but within the past year a Steamboat line has been established directly to the spot itself. The entire plantation contains several hundred acres of land; and the mansion is of wood, two stories high, ninety-six feet in length, and with a portico extending the entire length. The central part of the house was built by Lawrence Washington, brother to the General, but the wings were added by the General himself, and the whole named by him after the famous Admiral Vernon, under whom Lawrence Washington had served. It occupies an elevated position from which may be seen a reach of some twenty or thirty miles of the


noble Potomac, extending both to the eastward and to the westward. The present proprietor of the place is Mr. John Augustine Washington. The trees which surround the house are quite numerous, and those which are known to have been planted by General Washington have been carefully preserved, and are objects of great interest to the visitors. The Library room of the mansion remains very much as when occupied by the Father of his Country. Beautiful walks are spread out in every direction, but terminate at a summer house which commands a charming prospect of the neighboring river. On a hill side some two hundred yards west of the summer house, and thirty yards from the mansion itself, is situated the vault where repose the remains of Washington. The lid of his Sarcophagus is wrought with the arms of his Country, and his only epitaph his name;—and what an epitaph is that? By his side in a corresponding tomb are the ashes of “Martha, consort of Washington” When La Fayette the noble and well tried friend of Washington was in this country in 1825, he visited the tomb, descended alone into the vault and was melted to tears, and as he was about to depart, Mr

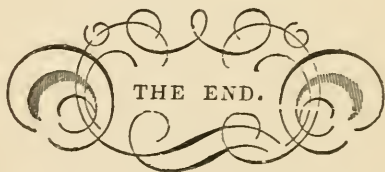
Custis who had accompanied him to the spot, presented him with a ring containing some of the hair of his illustrious friend. La Fayette examined the mansion with great interest, and among the relics of the place, discovered the Key of the Bastile, which had been sent to Washington many years before by himself, and which continues to be one of the attractions of the place.

To one accustomed to the plantation system and habits of Virginia, this estate may have much in common with others; but to persons unused to this economy, the whole is new and striking. Of things peculiar to the place, are a low rampart of brick, now partly overgrown, which Washington had built around the front of the house, and an underground passage leading from the bottom of a dry well, and coming out by the river side at the foot of the mount. On the west side of the house are two gardens, a greenhouse, and—the usual accompaniments of a plantation—seed-houses, tool-houses, and cottages for the negroes—things possessing no particular interest, except because they were standing during Washington's life, and were objects of his frequent attention. Along the walls of the

room hung engravings, which were mostly battle or hunting pieces. Among them will be noticed a print of Bunker Hill, but none of any battle in which Washington himself was engaged. The north room was built by Washington for a dining-room, and for the meeting of his friends and political visitors. The furniture of the room is just as when he left it, and leads one back to the days when there were met within these walls the great men of that generation who carried the States through the Revolution, laid the foundations of the government, and administered it in its purer days. The rooms of the house are spacious, and there is something of elegance in their arrangement; yet the whole is marked by great simplicity. All the regard one could wish, seems to have been shown to the sacredness of these public relics, and all things have been kept very nearly as Washington left them. Money made in the stocks can purchase the bedizenry of our city drawing-rooms; but these elevating associations, which no gold can buy, no popular favor win, which can only be inherited, these are the heir-looms, the traditional titles and pensions, inalienable, not conferred, which a republic allows to the descendants of her great servants.

Bladensburg.

S a village which is famous for its war-like associations, lying about five miles eastward of the Capitol. It was formerly a place of some commercial importance, but its present attractions are the field where a "famous victory" was won, or rather a bloody battle fought, and the celebrated Duelling Ground, where Decatur and many other smaller men have fallen to satisfy a sanguinary Code of Honor.



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